# NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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THE PAST—THE PRESENT—FOR THE FUTURE.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY H. NILES, AT $5 PER ANNUM, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

THE MAILS. Ever since the establishment of the REGISTER, now more than twelve years, my calculation has been that I lost from 50 to 100 subscribers per annum by the impracticability of conveying this paper to them, as is provided for at a great expense, by the people and government of the United States, through the neglect of post-masters, and a total disregard of their obligations by some of the contractors to carry the mail. I am well aware of the *impossibility* that such an extensive establishment should be conducted "like clock work," in all its various parts, and have not, therefore, indulged in *general* complaints; but it is my duty, and every man's duty, to point out *particular* cases when they are known: if then, the just cause of complaint is not removed, we have a right to find fault with the head of the department—but the facts should be presented to him in a *tangible* shape, that he may act upon them. Whenever the facts were so stated to me, I have taken the liberty to lay them, respectfully, before the post-office department, and the pleasure is afforded of knowing that many irregularities have been corrected by these means, for several years past, by the predecessor of the present post-master general; and there cannot be a doubt that the present incumbent of the office will be, at least, equally zealous that its affairs should be faithfully managed. Gentlemen, therefore, who are abused by the neglect of post-masters and mail carriers, should meet the responsibility of the case, and support special facts by their names. These will not be exposed; but all may hope that such neglects will be punished, if fairly and fully made known.

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SPAIN. We have 'fresh news' from Europe almost every day. The chief things are noted under their proper head. The accounts from Spain are contradictory, but not satisfactory. Several places of minor importance have been surrendered to the French, but all the strong fortifications still held out. Mina appears fully to hold his ground in Catalonia, and there are various notices of respectable bodies of constitutional troops elsewhere, as well as the forces at Cadiz. Much is said, by way of rumor, as to an expected mediation by England—it is hinted that it has been rather invited by both parties—but, at Bordeaux, on the 26th Aug. it was stated that the cortes had come to the determination of defending Cadiz to the last extremity—and that all hope of a speedy accommodation was over. If the Spaniards keep up even a respectable shew of opposition a little longer, we must needs think that some happy events will take place, and Spain preserve her freedom.

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CHOICE OF ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT. I have steadily maintained an opinion, for about twenty-five years, that the constitution of the United States was unhappily defective, in not prescribing some *uniform mode* for the election of electors of president and vice-president. Without the shadow of a reason for it—without the pretence of principle—from the simple want of foresight and knowledge of the operation of the provision, the *mode* was left to the discretion of the several states, and this *discretion* has been strangely construed by the legislators of some, as vesting a right in themselves to *appoint*, what the Federal constitution gave them power to regulate the *manner* of doing!—the will of the people not being consulted at all. This was a rank *usurpation* of power, and ought to have been resisted at the beginning; and it has oftentimes been exerted in the most indecorous and unjust way possible. Persons vested with "brief authority," have committed "fantastic tricks before high heaven," trampling the well-known wishes of their constituents under foot, and rudely gathering the power of suffrage in their own hands. The legislative hall has been converted into a den of political conspirators against the majesty of public opinion and the rights of the people; and those elected to make laws, were among the most flagrant violators of justice, to subserve their own personal purposes.

I esteem it as a principle that no American will dare to oppose, that the will of the people, in all matters that regard the national concern, and especially such as relate to the election of their public servants,—if fully and fairly ascertained or established, should be obeyed, as the supreme law, *if not in* DIRECT *opposition to the written law* which they themselves have adopted—and if so, that such law ought to be repealed. No one will contest this. If then, any one acts in opposition to this will, he is not only an aristocrat in principle, but a bad man and a tyrant in practice. I use plain terms—for, when treating of the rights of a free people, or speaking of my own, I have none of "that sort of thing" called *courtesy*, as to those who would deprive me of them, any more than I would extend to the midnight robber who should enter my house to plunder my property. This is the privilege of a republican, and, indeed, his duty. He never will compromise with wrong, or make a bargain with iniquity. Divested of my property by robbers, I may regain it by industry; but Liberty, once lost, becomes coy—and is too often found only by "seeking her through blood and slaughter." "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"—and it is a thousand times better for the free to *remain* free, than to lose their freedom, and *regain* it. "If you would have your business done, *go*—if not, *send;*" if you would be a freeman, be bold, reflect, act; if a slave, be meek, let others think for you and remain passive. But, in public or private life, I cannot apprehend any thing more impudent or less tolerable, than that, because an individual has *power* to accomplish a certain purpose, he will put it forth—though in self-conscious opposition to the rights of the case.

I shall briefly notice two instances of the political iniquity that has been committed, by the defect of the constitution of the United States, in granting to the legislatures of the several states a discretion as to the *mode* of electing, or appointing, electors of president.

Pennsylvania, in the year 1800,* gave eight votes to Mr. Jefferson, and seven to Mr. Adams, as president of the United States. This strange proceeding happened from the following causes:

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*In a small part of a former number of the REGISTER, 1808 was erroneously printed and referred to.

By the law that regarded the presidential election of 1796, Pennsylvania, through a general ticket, gave fourteen votes to Mr. Jefferson and one vote to Mr. Adams—the political opinion of one of the gentlemen on the ticket not having been clearly ascertained, perhaps. But this law, like the laws of all the other states relative to the same subject, was temporary—it had relation only to the *ensuing* election, and "died a natural death" when that election had been held. In the session of the state legislature of 1799–1800, another law on the subject ought to have been passed—but, though the state was decidedly "democratic," and the house of representatives so by a large majority, the senate, *accidentally*, had a "federal" majority of *two*, and, from the refusal of the latter body, no law was passed.

These were "*warm* times." Those who were not in *politics* at that day, can have only a faint idea of the force of power and party. So, without any law on the subject, the legislature met in November, 1800, when electors of president must have been appointed, or the vote of the state have been lost. The house of representatives again had a "republican majority," but the senate still retained its "federal" superiority. The proceedings on the case would make a small pamphlet. It was now, (and *designedly*), too late to elect the electors by the people, either by a general ticket or in districts, and the other mode of appointing them, by a *joint ballot* of the two branches of the legislature, was necessarily proposed. The senate refused to agree; they would have a *concurrent* vote, or no vote at all. This practice had never before been used in a case of this kind—but that was nothing; the senate had its majority of *two*, 13 to 11, and the "*Spartan band*," as they were called and toasted at that day, would not yield. A degree of excitement prevailed in the state almost equal to that created by the unjust ballottings that afterwards took place in the house of representatives of the U. States, in Feb. 1801, when Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Burr were voted for. At last, the perseverance of the senate forced this *compromise*—that the election should be held by a *joint ballot* of the two houses; but the senate were to *nominate* eight and the other house the same number of persons to be ballotted for—so, as as the state was entitled to fifteen electors, eight might be appointed that were favorable to Mr. Jefferson, and seven who would support Mr. Adams; and thus, in fact, the state had only *one operative vote* on the presidential election, though entitled to *fifteen;* all which, had the electors been chosen by a general ticket or a joint ballot of the legislature, would have been for Mr. Jefferson—or, if by districts, have stood about as 9 is to 6, or as 10 is to 5, in favor of the election of that gentleman.

At the session of the legislature of New Jersey, 1811-12, a law was passed directing that the electors of president should be chosen by the people with a general ticket. At the election of the members of the legislature, in Oct. 1812, the "federalists" obtained a majority. The general assembly met a few days before the time necessarily appointed for the election of electors. About *three days* anterior thereto, they passed an act annulling the act of the last session, and invested the right of electing the electors in themselves! So short was the time allowed to make known this change, that the people were almost literally deprived of the right of suffrage at the moment when they were proceeding to the polls to exert it! The consequence was, that the undivided vote of New Jersey was given to Mr. Clinton, which the *people*, by a large majority, would have given to Mr. Madison.†

I frankly confess, that I cannot trust myself to comment on these things, or on the scenes that took place in the house of representatives of the U. S. in 1801. But the history of them shall be written, if I live; the facts preserved at full length, that posterity may know how the rights of the people have been violated by the force of party in the exertion of power, granted by the law, but in opposition to the plainest principles of what all must regard as the common sense and eternal fitness of things. Either of these usurpations might have imposed on the United States a president that the people had not chosen, and to whom, I hold it, that they would not have owed any respect, as their chief magistrate, any more than a person can obtain a right to a horse that wrongfully comes into his possession. And, if this rule of right applies to property in horses, what is the measure of it when it affects the wishes and opinions, and legitimate suffrages of millions of freemen? "There can be no sincere friendship between the oppressors and the oppressed," said the Scythians to Alexander, of Macedon. "Even in peace, the latter think themselves entitled to the rights of war against the former."

Before I dismiss this subject, I feel it right to state, that the "republicans" have acted on the *same principles* that are condemned above, though not applied, (as I recollect just now), to the same purposes. I will only notice the *arbitrary divisions* of the senatorial districts in Massachusetts, which, because they were made when Mr. Gerry was governor, were called "*Gerrymanders*." To this evil the district system, though best in general, and (in most cases indispensable to a representation of the wishes and wants of the people), is always liable; and the best remedy for it is, to reduce the districts for the election of *one* person each, in all practicable cases. This is the plan on which I would that the electors of president were chosen, as approaching nearer to the will of the majority than any other.

At the ensuing election, however, the states will again act on their own discretion; and the following shews their different modes last adopted.

| *By districts.* | *General ticket.* | *Legislative.* |
|---|---|---|
| Maine, | New Hampshire, | Vermont, |
| Massachusetts, | Rhode Island, | New York, |
| Maryland, | Connecticut, | Delaware, |
| Kentucky, | New Jersey, | South Carolina, |
| Tennessee, | Pennsylvania, | Georgia, |
| Illinois, | Virginia, | Louisiana, |
| Missouri—7. | North Carolina, | Indiana—7. |
| | Mississippi, | |
| | Alabama, | |
| | Ohio—10. | |

Now, it appears that, should no alterations take place, there are *seventeen* states that must needs give *undivided* votes for president and vice president; and seven states that may give *divided* votes:

†On a slight view of the subject, it may be supposed that the legislature, just chosen, really represented the people—yet, if so, why was the law annulled? But, though one party had the ascendancy in both branches of the legislature, through the representation of *counties*, there was a decided majority of the people of the *state* who belonged to the other party. One county had, perhaps, a "republican" majority of 2000; another, a "federal" one of 20 or 30 votes; and both may have sent the same number of members to the legislature.

but in *practice*, judging by what has happened, *Maryland will probably stand alone as a divided state.* With the exception of North Carolina, (whose election was last made by a general ticket), Maryland was the ONLY state* that gave a divided vote in 1796, 1800, 1804, 1808 and 1812, and would have been divided in 1816 and 1820, had there been any serious party-opposition to the election and re-election of Mr. Monroe. Let us see how her rightful force has been lost or wasted by persevering in the district system, on account of its rejection by the most of her sister states.

| | MARYLAND. Votes. | | DELAWARE. Votes. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Whole No. | Effective. | Whole No. | Effective. |
| 1796—Adams | 7 | -- | 3 | 3 |
| Jefferson | 4—11 | 3 | — | — |
| 1800—Jefferson | 5 | -- | -- | -- |
| Adams | 5—11† | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| 1804—Jefferson | No serious opposition. | — | — | — |
| Pinckney | | — | — | — |
| 1808—Madison | | — | — | — |
| Pinckney | | — | — | — |
| 1812—Madison | 6 | -- | -- | -- |
| Clinton | 5—11 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| | | 4 | | 10 |

In 1816, the "federal" electors of Maryland did not attend the college, and, in 1820, there was no opposition at all.

It was only in the year 1796, 1800 and 1812 that *parties* struggled for the presidency. At these three elections, Maryland gave *thirty-two* votes, but only *four* of them were effective as to the selection; at the same periods, Delaware gave only *ten* votes, but the whole *ten* were effective. So that the smallest of the states, with only *one* representative in congress, (except at one of the elections when she had two), *has had two and a half times as much weight in the choice of a president as Maryland, with nine representatives!* It is useless to do more than point out these important political facts. Nor was the condition of *parties* in the two states so different as to present the shadow of an excuse for the prodigal waste of power in Maryland. It may safely be said, without fear of contradiction, I believe, that a majority of the electors of Maryland have *always* been republican, from 1796 to the present day, though the legislature of the state, (which represents the *counties* and not the people), has several times been "federal." In Delaware, perhaps, a majority of the electors has been on the "federal" side, generally—and the legislature, (representing *counties*) always so until last year. But major Patten, a republican, was elected to congress in about 1796; col. Hall was chosen governor in 1800, and the place of Mr. Bayard taken by Mr. Rodney a year or two afterwards; and the choice of governors and representatives in congress has always been doubtful, or varying in political character, ever since—either party prevailing by small majorities, at different times.

What the state of Maryland owes to herself on the present occasion, is rendered self evident; and, as a large majority of the states have preferred such systems as *secure* to them respectively, undivided votes for president and vice president, it is submitted to the people of the others, whether it is not right and proper that they should conform to one of the *modes* most generally preferred, that every state may stand on the same equal footing. A legislative choice is liable to many and serious objections, and is, surely, in opposition to the spirit and meaning of the constitution; it may also misrepresent the voice of the people; but a general ticket is in the spirit of the constitution, and must necessarily shew the will of the majority of a state.

*Pennsylvania excepted in 1800, as stated above.
†One absent.

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IRELAND. The late British papers abound with narratives of horrid excesses committed in Ireland —though it appears to be admitted that the general condition of that country is improving, or becoming more quiet. It always has been too much the practice in England, to sport with and misrepresent the Irish character. Indeed, Ireland is more regarded as a conquered country, held in subjection by force, than as an integral part of the British empire, entitled to a common share of the honors and privileges that belong to its subjects in general. When the island was first subdued, many lawless and greedy adventurers were permitted to pass over it, clothed with power to oppress and become rich, as it were, on the miseries of men. The *essence* of this proceeding prevails even to the present day. Her great landholders and wealthy men are enticed to London, and there to expend what they wrest from the laboring poor, in all sorts of extravagance. There have even been Irish *bishops*, charged with "the care of souls," who have not seen any of those who supported them in bestial gluttonies, for ten or twenty years at a time! Hence the poor are kept poor, the ignorant, ignorant—the debased, debased; there is little encouragement to do well, and great temptation to do evil. The people are treated like slaves, and their island is regarded as the *property* of England. It is not long since, that a petition was presented to parliament to prevent the Irish from catching herrings in their own bay of Wexford, because it interfered with the profits and pursuits of English fishermen!—and this is the *spirit* in which things are still conducted. So the Irish regard the English as tyrants, and, in resisting or violating the law, suppose that they are redressing themselves.

These accounts would shew that the poor peasantry murder for frolick and do harm for the mere love of destruction—for they do not appear to have any *object* in their depredations. This cannot be true—*there must be exciting causes*, but the peasantry do not control the press—their grievances are not represented. No doubt, the most flagrant violations of right are committed on them with the semblance of law, and a resistance of brutal conduct in the administrators of the law assumes the character of rebellion against the law: so the poor Irish, seeing no other law than that of *force*, resort to force to redress it, or punish its officers. The most rightful thing may be done in a wrong way—a sheriff, when he arrests a man, even for an alleged crime, is not always justified in dragging him through the streets with his hands tied behind him: It may provoke public feeling, without adding any thing to the real security of the supposed culprit. The English law, which abounds with so many sublime provisions, and is moreover sustained by the moral force of the people, is hardly known to the Irish, except in its terrors—and its severity begets a spirit of retaliation, and nourishes the most deadly enmities—of man against man, and one religious sect against another; a large majority being oppressed, that the few may live sumptuously on the fat of the land.

The Irishman is warm-hearted, hospitable and generous—but, from being kept in a state of irritation, has become apparently revengeful. He is not so. In the heat of his passion, he will hear the

voice of a *friend*; and, in excess of violence, listen to those who possess his confidence. Swift, personally, would have done more with the populace of Dublin, than the lord lieutenant at the head of his regiments from the castle. I have myself experienced cases of this nature. The idea of force immediately provokes a spirit of resistance in Irishmen; but persuasion, from the lips of those who have been kind to them, acts like a charm in stilling even their rage. Treat them justly, and they are fearlessly faithful, whether in adversity or prosperity—and, though their head is often wrong, their heart is generally right. The well-bred Irishman is one of the most dignified order of men—a little too fractious, perhaps, out of jealousy of his own honor. The peasant has the same qualities—but his necessities and the servile state of ignorance that he is kept in, give them a different direction, and obscure them; and it is too often the case that, when they arrive among us, they resort to violence to accomplish what the law really ordains for the common good of the citizens, but they are not sensible of it; not yet having obtained the idea that the law prevails in peace, and that the great merit of a free government is that the law is not felt—or, if felt, that obedience is a necessary consequence for the preservation of the society. It will take a freeman a long while to be fitted for the condition of a slave, and a slave cannot at once comprehend the rights and duties of a citizen.—The Irish are not slaves, in the literal meaning of the word, but so in reality; and their comforts are less than those of some slaves who have humane masters; hence the mind becomes degraded, or runs wild. But it is pleasing, nay, delightful, to observe the progress of improvement on those persons as they advance in knowledge and get forward by industry. Their great and good qualities are brought out—they begin to feel that they are *men* and advance to the rank of CITIZENS—zealous for the public good and willing to defend or promote it at the hazard of their lives. During our wars with Great Britain, *it was not Irishmen who were traitors*.

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NEW CORPS. Several new and valuable rifle corps have lately been raised in Baltimore, composed almost entirely of young men, fully and very elegantly equipped. The following are the names of the five companies: The *Fayette*, *Morgan*, *Marion*, *Jackson* and *Forsythe* riflemen.

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SIR CHARLES ASGILL. It was carelessly mentioned, in the Register, of the 20th ult. that this person, lately deceased, had been held in custody by WASHINGTON in retaliation for the execution of capt. Lippencott—it ought to have been *Huddy*. It was so published in other papers, and I followed their mislead without reflecting a moment upon it.

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THOMPSON'S ISLAND, (KEY WEST). *From the National Intelligencer*—We have the satisfaction to inform our readers, and the public generally, that the reports as to the unhealthiness of the station at Key West have induced the government to send out a special mission, for the purpose of examining the causes of the disease said to be prevailing there, and the prospects of its continuance, &c. with full authority to adopt any measures which the situation of the squadron may seem to call for. Commodore Rodgers, the highest officer of the navy, has volunteered his services on the occasion, relinquishing, for the time, his station as president of the board of navy commissioners, and the comforts of domestic life, for a duty that can have no charm for him but that of rendering an important service to the navy and to his country. Four of the oldest surgeons of the navy accompany him.

The object of this mission is to examine the state of the squadron and the localities of the island, to make report thereon to the government, to take such immediate steps in regard to it as the interests of the service shall appear to require, and, if it shall be found expedient, to remove the whole squadron to Pensacola, or to some northern port. Commodore Rodgers does not, of course, supersede commodore Porter, but, during his presence there, being of higher rank, will necessarily have the command. He is expected to be absent from the city, on this expedition, not more than a few weeks.

We tender our hearty thanks, in the name of the friends of those who are in the squadron, from the commodore down to the cabin-boy, to the secretary of the navy, for the promptitude with which, after entering upon the duties of his office, he has acted upon this subject. No little praise is also due to the worthy veteran, who shews, by his conduct, that the honors of rank and station are valuable to him as the rewards of service, rather than as the means of enjoyment and display.

Com. Rodgers has arrived at New York, to take his passage in the brig Spark. [See page 80].

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WEST INDIAN SLAVES. In a late debate in the British house of commons, on the subject of slavery, sir George Rose stated that, being possessor of a small estate in one of the West India islands, and understanding there were difficulties in the way of the religious instruction of the slaves, he had himself gone to the West Indies for the purpose of examining the subject. He found that, on one estate the slaves were in a state of darkness, but that, on another, it being adjacent to a Wesleyan establishment, their conduct was so exemplary, that, out of 120 men, only ten were considered as bad, and only one woman out of 130. He thought they were certainly raised in the scale of human beings. Religious instruction was not forbidden or impeded. Six or seven islands were entirely, and others were partially, open to the Wesleyans; although there was, in general, a great prejudice against that sect.

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PITCAIRN'S ISLAND. *From the Nantucket Inquirer.* Captain F Arthur, of this port, when at Pitcairn's Island, in March, 1822, had the curiosity to collect the names of all its inhabitants, about 50 in number; a memorandum of which he placed in our hands on his return, several months since. As this singular little settlement has not only become a subject of historical interest, but is likely to be renowned in song—Lord Byron having recently attempted to immortalize it in a poem, entitled "The Island, or Christian and his Comrade," our readers are here presented with the catalogue.

John Adams, Mary Adams, Diana Adams, Rachel Adams, Hannah Adams, George Adams.

Thursday October Christian, Susan Christian, Joseph Christian, Charles Christian, Mary Christian, Polly Christian, Peggy Christian, Friday October Christian, Charles Christian, 2d; Sarah Christian, Sarah Christian, 2d; Fletcher Christian, Edward Christian, Maria Christian, Charles Christian, 3d; Mary Christian, 2d; Isabella Christian, Mary Christian, 3d; (one not named).

Elizabeth Quintal, John Quintal, Mathew Quintal, Arthur Quintal, Catharine Quintal, Arthur Quintal, 2d; Catharine Quintal, 2d; John Quintal, Jr. James

Quintal, Edward Quintal, William Quintal, (one not named).

Daniel M'Koy, Sarah M'Koy, William M'Koy, Daniel M'Koy, Jr. Hugh M'Koy, Mathew M'Koy, Jane M'Koy.

Polly Young, Edward Young, Dolly Young, George Young, Robert Young, William Young, Nancy Williams.

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FRENCH CLERGY. By the *Almanach du clergy du France*, for 1823, it appears that there are fifty four bishops and archbishops, already consecrated out of the eighty France is to have. There are also, already, 35,676 priests in activity, exclusive of missionaries, and 50,934 is the number the bishops judged necessary to complete the army of the church —2,031 are, moreover, pensioned. Then, in the schools, and at their different colleges, there are 29,379 youths preparing for clerical duties. The revenue of the priests even now amounts to 28,000,000 francs, exclusive of sums destined to repair the churches, and other ecclesiastical services, which, amounting to 1,500,000 francs, will also pass through their hands, exclusive of the sums collected by the misssionaries and contributed by the *communes*, both of which are very considerable. From the same book, it appears that, since 1802, the legacies and gifts received by the church, and held in Mortmain, amount to 13,388,554 francs, giving an annual revenue, after abstracting from this sum many church ornaments, of 450,000 francs. Of this sum, no less than 2,332,554 francs were contributed within the last year.

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ARTS AND MANUFACTURES, &c.

*New invention.* A committee of gentlemen, of Baton Rouge, (Lou.) speak in the following terms of an invention which they had been requested to examine:—

"Having been called on, as a committee, to examine and inspect a new invention of projectile power, (called, by the inventor, "*the American Torpedo*")—after a due examination of its geometrical and mathematical principles, we are sanguine in believing, that, if the engine was constructed agreeably to the several designs and drawings presented us by the inventor, (Mr. Joshua Blair, of Baton Rouge), and in a situation to be put into practical operation, a new era would have been commenced in the art or science of war. That the tremendous projectile power of the engine, will, of itself, if reduced to practical experiment, have a tendency to produce this effect; as we verily believe that no ship, of whatever strength or dimensions, on the principles of ship building, would be able to contend with the *torpedal battery*, when in full operation, for twenty minutes. The *torpedal battery* is calculated either for sea or land defence, and would, perhaps, in certain situations, be more destructive on land than at sea; particularly in the defence of narrow bays and rivers. We do not conceive that it would be saying too much if we were to assert, that a single vessel, of sufficient strength and tonnage to carry a full *torpedal battery*, might navigate the ocean alone, and, unconnected with any other force, bid defiance to a navy."

*Ingenious and useful invention.* Amongst the new Parisian inventions, is a coffee pot, constructed of three pieces: the first is a plain boiler, over that is a double filterer, and at the top is an inverted coffee pot, which fits on exactly. Cold water is placed in the first vessel, and the coffee in the filtering box. Under the whole is a spirit lamp, which, in the course of five or six minutes, causes the water to boil, the vapour arising from which completely saturates the coffee. When the water boils, which is ascertained by the discharge of the vapour from the spout of the inverted coffee pot, the whole machine is lifted from the lamp, and completely inverted, so that the pot, which was uppermost, is at the bottom, and the boiling water, which had saturated the coffee, flows through the filterer, clear, into what was before the inverted coffee pot, where, in the space of two minutes, it is ready for use. This mode of preparing coffee is a saving of, at least, 25 per cent. and it secures the fine flavor of the berry. In another part of the service is a coffee roaster of glass, over another lamp of a long wide flame. The roasting requires about three minutes, and even so small a quantity as an ounce may be thus prepared.

*Great organ.* The organ in York Minster is now completed. It is the largest and most complete instrument in Great Britain. The total number of stops is 52. Pipes, 3254. There are three sets of keys, namely, one for the great and nave organs, one for the choir organ, and one for the swell, exclusive of pedals. There are movements for enabling the performer to play two or three sets of keys at once; or to detach the great and nave organs; also to play the keys of the great and choir organs, with the pedals, in addition to the pedal pipes. The Harlem organ, which is the largest in Europe, contains sixty stops, being eight more than that of York Minster.

*Origin of printing.* A work, on the origin of the art of printing, which was, a few years ago, published in the Dutch language, by Mr. J. Kœnig, and which has since been translated into French and German, is much less known in this country than its merits entitle it to be. We collect the following account of this valuable publication from a German review:

To come to a satisfactory conclusion on the disputed claims to the invention of printing, an intimate technical knowledge of the art is requisite; without such knowledge, the most profound antiquarian research is not sufficient to enable the inquirer to form an opinion on the relative antiquity of the specimens, which yet remain of the earliest productions of the press. Respectable as is the learning of Meerman, Heineke and de la Serna Santander, they have been led into great errors from the want of practical knowledge. The authors who have alternately attributed the invention to Mentz and to Harlem, have directed their investigations more to the persons who exercised the art, than to the examination of its first productions. The present author, applying himself more particularly to the latter mode, has, from his knowledge of the mechanical part of printing, proved that the *Speculum Salutis Humanæ*, published in Dutch, was the first work of any extent which appeared after the invention of the typographical art. The common opinion, that this book was printed with wooden types, is shown to be erroneous. Mr. Kœnig proves, however, that the punches which struck the character in the matrices were, in all probability, formed of wood, and the matrices, themselves, of thin lead; that the types were of cast tin or lead; that a very imperfect hand press was used; that, in consequence of the weakness of the types, it was found necessary to surround them with some strong binding to support them, and so guard against their penetrating the paper, or the otherwise unequal working of the very defective press; that no composing-stick had been employed in setting the types; that the composition of the ink, and the for-

mation of the inking-balls, were extremely defective; and that to these imperfections is to be ascribed the circumstance of each leaf of this book being printed only on one side. The author examined two printed copies and one manuscript copy of the *Speculum Humanæ Salutis*. The date of MS. is 1464, but several characteristics of the language, and peculiarities of orthography in the printed copies, particularly in one of them, indicate a considerable priority. They must be referred to the year 1430, or earlier, and it is certain that the Mentz edition of the *Speculum Humanæ Salutis* did not appear till 1450 To ascertain the locality, as well as the date of the printed copies, Mr. Kœnig enterted into an investigation of the marks in the paper, of the language and the orthography of the work. By examining the accounts in the treasurer's office of Harlem, he discovered that all the paper used about the year 1430, was purchased at Antwerp. On comparison, the marks on the paper, used for accounts in the treasurer's office, from the year 1417, and those on the paper of the *Speculum*, and other early productions of the press at Harlem, were found to be perfectly similar. It also appeared that these marks had reference to the arms and names of the sovereigns who, at the time the paper was made, governed Brabant, and that these sovereigns must have been Jacobina, of Bavaria, and Philip, of Burgundy. A critical examination of the language and orthography, however, shows that the work could not have had its origin in Brabant or Flanders, which provinces were then under the same sovereign, but that the composition is strictly Dutch. Thus, with great research, and with the exercise of still greater ingenuity and judgment, Mr. Kœnig has demonstrated, that to Holland belongs the honor of having given to the world the first work printed with moveable types.

*Progress of science.* A French journal recapitulates, as follows, the advantages derived to science by the late British voyages of discovery in the Arctic seas: 1. That the continent of America is not so extensive as has been commonly supposed towards the north pole. 2. That its northern coasts, though at present inaccessible, lie under parallels less elevated than those of the Asiatic coasts in general, and exceed, only by a few degrees, the latitudes in the north of Europe. 3. That Baffin's bay, as it is called, is not properly a bay, but forms a part of the Arctic ocean, communicating with it by Lancaster straight. 4. That Greenland is not conjoined with the Arctic countries of North America, but forms an immense island, or rather a sixth continent, (Australasia being the fifth), from the extremity of the great head land which it projects, between Europe and America, to New Siberia, which appears to be its furthest limits. 5. That, admitting this, it must be frozen land, and not the Hyperbolean ocean, which fills the 80th degree of latitude and the north pole. 6. That, combining the result of the polar expeditions with Russian discoveries, there is reason to conclude, that this Arctic continent has been originally subject to the same geological laws, as the other great divisions of the globe; its configuration, it would appear, is similar; its greatest breadth being in the northern part, as in the five other continents. One advantage to navigation has already resulted from certain passages discovered by captain Parry; the whale fishermen, having ventured as far as Lancaster straights, have returned with rich cargoes.

*Brewing.* The art of brewing is very easy to be understood, for it is exactly similar to the process of making tea. Put a handful of malt into a tea pot, then fill it up with water, the first time rather under boiling heat. After it has stood some time, pour off the liquor, just as you would tea, and fill up the pot again with boiling water; in a similar manner pour that off, and so go on filling up and pouring off till the malt in the pot is tasteless, which will be the case when all the virtue is extracted. The liquor, or malt tea, thus extracted, must then be boiled with a few hops in it, and when it becomes cool enough, that is, about blood heat, add a little yeast to ferment it, and the thing is done. This is the whole art and process of brewing; and to brew a larger quantity requires just the same mode of proceeding as it would to make a tea breakfast for a regiment of soldiers. A peck of malt and four ounces of hops will produce ten quarts of ale, better than any that can be purchased in London, and for which purpose a tea kettle and two pan mugs are sufficient apparatus. A bushel of malt to one pound of hops is the most general proportion; and 18 gallons of good light ale, or table ale, may be produced from one bushel of malt and one pound of hops, which will not cost above nine shillings, that is, six pence a gallon, or one and a half pence per quart. Brewing utensils, consisting of a mashing tub and oar, a sieve, two coolers, and wicker hose, a spiggot and faucet, together with a couple of nine gallon barrels, new from the coopers, cost me no more than twenty six shillings, and with these utensils I have frequently brewed, at one time, four bushels of malt. The plan I have adopted is, from one bushel of malt to extract nine gallons of liquor for ale, and afterwards nine gallons more for table beer, both of which will be excellent.

*New York Canal.* A late number of the *British Traveller*, speaking of the Erie canal, in the state of New York, which it calls the "great American canal," holds the following language: This great work, which was begun in 1817, and will be completed next year, is the longest canal in existence; and, though upon a small scale as to breadth and depth, is, we believe, in point of pecuniary outlay, the greatest work of the kind ever executed. It is 353 miles in length, forty-three feet wide at the surface of the water, twenty-eight at the bottom, and four feet deep, and will cost about five millions of dollars, (1,100,000*l.*), or 3000*l.* per mile on an average. Such a vast undertaking, completed in the short period of seven years, by a state, (New-York), with 1,368,000 inhabitants, affords a striking proof of the energy and enterprize generated by free institutions. It is a work worth a thousand Escurials and Versailles, because it creates wealth, while these only consume it; and it is a monument of public spirit and national prosperity, while these are only monuments of idle magnificence, vain glory, and despotic oppression. When shall we see the inhabitants of a small province of any of the torpid and priest-ridden monarchies of continental Europe execute such a work by their own spontaneous act, and with their unassisted resources?

*British apprehensions.* A west of England paper cautions bleachers, manufacturers and others, concerned in the cotton trade, against allowing strangers to inspect their works. The following reason for this caution is given in a Liverpool paper: "We understand that there is at present, in England, an agent from the United States, who is, apparently, engaged in the manufacture of machines of a particular description, and that, under the pretence of supplying the various manufacturing establishments of the United Kingdom with such machines, he is finding his way into those establishments, in order to

make himself acquainted with the local improvements of each factory, and he is actually engaged in making models and such local improvements, which models are regularly exported, in casks of linseed oil. This agent, we understand, very lately sent out a complete series of machinery in that mode of packing, for the spinning of cotton, and of the very latest inventions."

*Manufactuers in New York.* From the Albany Argus. There are in this state 206 incorporated *manufacturing* companies, whose capital stock amounts to 20,350,500 dollars. They consist of

62 for the manufacturing of cotton and woollen goods
36 of cotton goods only
16 of woollen goods only
12 of cotton, woollen and linen cloths
10 for manufacturing glass
5 iron mongery
3 coarse salt
2 woollen and linen goods;
2 woollen, cotton and paper;
1 woollen, linen, cotton and silk;
2 paints;
1 scythes, axes and other edged tools;
2 slate;
1 iron and glass;
1 salt;
1 sail cloth, cordage, twine, linen, woollen and cotton goods;
1 paper;
1 clay and salt;
1 woollen and cotton, paints and linen;
1 paper, cotton yarn, woollen and cotton cloths;
1 glass, cotton and clay;
1 glass and earthen ware;
1 refining sugar;
4 coal;
1 woollen, cotton, flax, hemp and paper;
2 lead;
1 cotton and woollen cards;
2 marble;
1 iron and brass wire, cotton and woollen cards;
1 fur;
1 iron and steel;
1 cotton wool, flax, hemp, earthen ware and iron;
1 copper and brass;
1 cloth, manufactured of hair itself, or mixed;
1 pressing and straining oils;
1 loaf and lump sugar;
1 iron and brass cannon, cannon balls, &c.
1 linen;
1 glass, iron and steel;
1 bar iron, steel, anchors and nail rods;
1 iron and castings;
2 woollen, cotton, glass, bar iron and anchors;
2 the same, and also linen;
1 sheet copper, bar iron, &c.
1 woollen, cotton, linen and iron;
1 stocking loom, cotton and woollen;
1 iron, steel and brass;
2 iron;
1 ale, beer and porter;
1 morocco and other leather;
1 bar iron and iron mongery;
1 blue vitriol, allum, oil of vitroil, aqua fortis, nitric acid, muriatic acid, alcohol, camphor, salt petre, borax, copperas, corrosive sublimate, calomel and other drugs and medicines, paints and dyers' articles.
1 digging, mining, smelting and refining gold, silver, lead and copper ores, red and white lead.

206 total.

It is probable that some of these corporations may have ceased to operate, or to exist; but then it is to be remembered, that there are hundreds of manufactories in this state *not incorporated*, and which are, of course, not included in the above list.

The secretary of this state has, on the requisition of the general government, made out the foregoing list from the authentic documents remaining in his office.

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## FOREIGN NEWS.

*From London papers of the 23d August.*

*Great Britain and Ireland.* Much distress is expected in England, among the farmers, on account of the abundance of the wheat crop. It was thought that this grain would fall 20*s.* per quarter before Christmas!—If so, the farmers cannot pay their rents.

The duke of Wellington was on a visit to the continent.

There are forty private mad-houses in and about London; and, of these, two establishments at Hoxton and Bethnal, alone, contain upwards of 1300 patients!

An account of the Greenland, Davis' Straits, and southern whale fisheries of Great Britain, has recently been printed, by order of the house of commons, specifying the tonnage, duty, bounty and produce, for the last thirty years, except where the documents were destroyed by fire. The greatest number of ships was 155, in 1818 and 1820, which was reduced in 1822, to 115. The bounty paid was 45,806*l.* in 1818; and 32,347*l.* in 1822. In 1820, 56 ships were employed in the southern fishery; but, in 1822, only 41; the bounty paid on which, was 7,400*l.*; and the produce 5,900 tons of spermaceti, and 1600 tons of train oil. The quantity of oil in 1822, from Newfoundland, was 9,000 tons, the duties on which are suspended. The ships, tonnage and produce of each port are given separately; and only three ships appear to have sailed from Hull to the South seas, one in 1804, 1814 and 1821.

*France.* The missionaries in France are endeavoring to suppress the custom of dancing on Sundays.

The name of the French national guards is to be changed to guards of the crown.

The Rothschilds are said to have realized a profit of four millions of francs in their late operation in French Rentes.

Another French stock broker has failed for 8 or 10 millions of francs, and fled.

*Spain.* Sir Robert Wilson has left Spain and arrived at Lisbon, from whence, it is said, he would speedily return to England! This being the case, it shews, at least, that he also has abandoned the cause of Spain! Yet Corunna held out on the 6th of August. It was reported that the governor had offered to capitulate.

Preparations were made for a more strict blockade of Cadiz—from which place we have nothing else new.

There is a story published, saying that Quiroga, when at Corunna, caused 51 persons to be taken on board a vessel and carried to sea; when their throats were cut and their bodies thrown overboard! The names of some, said to have been victims, are given—among them was brigadier Escandon, and colonels Pareira, Gil and Aragon.

The French have entered Vigo, after a skirmish with the constitutionalists.

A Bayonne article says—"An energetic proclamation from Mina, to his soldiers, is spoken of, in

which he is reported to say, that he has heard of the infamous treason of Ballasteros, but that he will never surrender: and that he would sooner set fire to all the towns in Spain.'

The French have captured a valuable British ship attempting to enter Cadiz—which produced a "strong sensation" in London.

About $150,000 have been raised by subscription at Havana, and chiefly forwarded to Europe, as a donation to the cortes. The bishop gave 5000 dollars,

*Italy.* The pope died on the 19th Aug; his last words were in refusing to take a refreshing beverage offered to him:

"I have no other care on this earth but that of my soul, and to render unto God an account of my long life."

A letter from Rome says—"According to immemorial custom, the body of the pope will lie in state nine days, in an illuminated chapel. The burial will take place on the ninth day, and, on the tenth, the sacred college will assemble in conclave. Arrangements are making for the first formal rites observed at the election of a pope. The foreign cardinals will be admitted to the conclave on the first or second day after their arrival at Rome. Cardinal Peca, Camerlingo of the Roman Catholic religion, has taken the temporal government of the states of the church."

*Germany.* The emperor of Austria has summoned the lesser powers to hold a congress at Vienna, no doubt to strengthen the arm of the despots. Bavaria and Wurtemburg have refused to send representatives.

*Prussia.* The Hamburgh Correspondenten, of July 29th, contains the substance of a statement made by the minister of finance, Mr. Von Canozin, of the condition of the Prussian finances. After some account of the operations of the last year, the minister states the amount of the debt, on the first of Jan. last, as follows: The Dutch debt 48,100,000 florins; annuities 3,364,000 roubles, in silver, and 34,505,753 florins in paper; six per cent. perpetual rents 20,620 roubles, in gold, 9,015,412 in silver, and 240,945,711 in paper; five per cent. perpetual rents, 61,362,360 roubles in silver. The sum appropriated by the regulation of the sinking fund, in the year 1822, to the reduction of the amount of paper in circulation, was 32,402,715 roubles.

The capital of the Commercial bank is completed to thirty millions of roubles. The amount of its transactions for the year, was 185,230,858 roubles. The profits of the bank, after deducting expenses, amounted to 1,810,615 roubles.

The amount of paper now in circulation from the Assignat bank is 595,721,010 roubles. The law prohibiting any new emission of assignats has been strictly enforced.

Under the Berlin date, in the same paper, it is stated that several bankers in that city have associated for the purpose of establishing a banking house, and issued bills, payable to bearer, signed by all their names.

☞ *Later—London papers, of Aug. 27, and Paris of of the 30th, received by arrivals at New York, from England and France.*

Algesiras has been taken by the French—the Spanish force stationed there surrendered to them by capitulation. Corunna was bombarded on the 7th August, and set on fire in several places, and was also surrendered to the French, by a convention, on the 14th, "on the same conditions that had been granted to Morillo."

The French papers speak of great desertions from the Constitutional forces. Cadiz was not yet bombarded, but the duke of Angouleme had announced his intention of commencing it. It was reported at Bayonne on the 19th Aug. that an order had been sent from the government at Cadiz to the constitutional generals, advising them to suspend hostilities. There are various notices of some negociations said to be going on.

In Catalonia, even the French accounts shew that Mina, Lloberas and Milans, are in great force, and keep the invaders exceedingly busy—but no important event has latterly taken place. It is evidently Mina's plan to pursue a Fabian system of warfare. Manso has deserted—but he could take only 42 men with him to partake of his disgrace. It is now said that Ballasteros carried 4000 of his troops over with him.

Gen. Banos, with 4000 men, was in the neighborhood of Toledo. There is a report that Zayas has capitulated. It is also stated that Ciudad Rodrigo has surrendered. The French say that *nine thousand* of the garrison of Figueras had made a sortie.

Six hundred persons were released from the prisons of Madrid, in consequence of the late decree of the duke of Angouleme. The duke appears to be much offended with the regency.

*Paris, Aug. 27.* It is reported that his R. H. as soon as he arrived before Cadiz, sent a flag of truce to King Ferdinand, bearer of the conditions that may bring forth an arrangement between the belligerent parties. His R. H. they say, required an answer in twenty-four hours. It seems that a reply was immediately returned to the prince that this term was too limited, and that his R. H. granted them five days. Three days having already elapsed since the departure of the flag of truce without his returning, a favorable result was anticipated from this delay.

*Turkey and Greece.* Nuremburg, Aug. 20. The private intelligence from Constantinople is in direct opposition to the information from the capital contained in the Austrian Journals. Merchants and others write that they "momently expect some new catastrophe; that the Janissaries begin to get the upperhand, and appear determined to give themselves up to all kinds of excesses. The Europeans are very much alarmed, and remain shut up in their houses. The seignor is himself afraid, and dare not take any energetic measures. The demands of Russia appear to be of such a character that they will not be accepted by the Divan"

There is some reason to believe that the account of a late great battle and victory of the Greeks, at Termopylæ, is not true.

*East Indies.* The government of Batavia has received a detailed accouut of the volcano Galeengueng, in October last. In this terrible visitation, 4011 persons perished, and 114 campongs were destroyed, and 5361 injured; the number of coffee trees destroyed amount to 775,795; those injured to 2,871,742; 2983 rice plantations were totally destroyed, and 5,361 injured.

## Foreign Public Papers.

### SPANISH.

The most remarkable part of the contents of the Spanish Gazette, (says the National Gazette), is a correspondence between gen. Burriel, commander in chief, *ad interim*, of the army of reserve in Cadiz, and gen. Bourdesoulle, commander of the French besieging army. Burriel addressed a note, on the 17th July, to Bourdesoulle, proposing simply the

exchange of a French dragoon, made prisoner by the constitutionalists, for one of the Madrid volunteers, who had fallen into the hands of the French. The French commander replied in these terms:

"The elevation of soul and the generosity which so eminently characterize H. R. H. the duke d'Angouleme, and the conduct which the French army has observed since its entry into Spain, must have proved to you that we do not war against Spaniards—that we combat only the errors which have plunged your country into an abyss of evil, and produced the wretchedness of your king and his family; and that it depends but upon you to put an end to this state of things. *In consequence* I give orders for the volunteer to be restored to you, &c."

The Spanish general rejoined immediately thus—

"Your excellency cannot fail to know that all that you have said upon political subjects, in reply to my note respecting the exchange of a soldier, is very inopportune, and exceedingly affronting to the dignity of my station and to the character of the army which I have the honor to command. I wrote you simply, in proper terms, about a military affair—I have an answer in which you extol the greatness of soul and generosity of the duke d'Angouleme, and urge the imposture that the French do not combat the Spaniards, but their errors. It is certainly very extraordinary, on the part of the general of a French army, that he should endeavor to sustain, with his pen, in the 19th century, the interest and notions of the bad friars and aristocratic orders, and the selfish fanatics, who have committed the base act of calling the French troops to fight for them in Spain. When you observe, in your letter, that our errors have plunged my country into an abyss, and occasioned the infelicity of the king and family, you repeat the fictions and calumnies, which the persons just mentioned have invented in order to blind the people, and persuade them that the institutions, so highly beneficial to them, are noxious. Your excellency knows better than I, that the ills of Spain proceeded from the aid which the French government has extended to those who rebelled against institutions, lawfully established here and spontaneously adopted by the king, and from the invasion of the peninsula, equally unjust and scandalous, by the French army, with the view of overrunning and destroying it, and protecting the ideas of the the 12th century, to the dishonor of the intelligence of France and Europe. Your excellency may be assured that there is not, in the world, a man who will second your assertions, except the persons of whom I have spoken.

"I beg of your excellency to confine yourself, like a good soldier, to make war upon us in pursuance of your duty, and to abstain from indicating to us, in so offensive a manner, what you suppose to be ours. I have deemed it incumbent upon me to reply to you and to cut off the opportunity of a repetition of the affront, either by you or any of your subordinate officers. I have, therefore, given orders, at the advance posts, that, while your excellency commands the French force opposite to me, no flag of truce, nor any communication brought by one, shall be admitted, and I will receive no letter by any other channel. This is the only mode of resenting the affront which you have offered to the army."

The secretary of state at Cadiz, expressed, on the 22d July, in a note to gen. Burriel, the satisfaction of the king and government, at his energetic rejoinder to the "impertinent reply" of the French commander, and their approbation of the system of non-intercourse which was resolved upon. The English papers, that announced negociations between the authorities in Cadiz and the French, could not, we presume, have heard of this correspondence.

*Ballasteros.* From a Madrid paper of Aug. 8—The regency has recognized all the conventions between general Bourck and general Morillo. They have, in a like manner, acknowledged those which have taken place between general Molitor and general Ballasteros.

The following is the convention concluded between general Molitor and general Ballasteros:—

"Art. 1 General Ballasteros and the second army, under his orders, acknowledge the authority of the regency of Spain during the absence of the king.

"2. The above mentioned will order all the other generals and commanders of places, situated within the limits of his government, to also acknowledge the regency

"3. The troops which are under the orders of general Ballasteros, will be stationed in such places as shall be agreed on, in concert with general Ballasteros.

"4. The general, chiefs and officers, belonging to the second corps of the Spanish army, will preserve their rank, employment and distinction, and the pay belonging to their said capacities.

"5. No individual of the said army to be harassed, proscribed or molested for his opinions anterior to this convention, nor for analagous acts, except such as are amenable to the ordinary course of justice.

"6. The pay will be issued by the treasury of Spain, in the regular form, and in case of delay or impossibility, the troops will continue to receive daily rations in the cantonments assigned to them.

"7. The individuals of the militia, forming part of the said army, who desire to return to their homes, may freely do so, and will meet with safety and protection.

"In consequence of the present agreement, hostilities will immediately cease on both sides.

"Done at Granada, Aug. 4, 1823.

## SIR ROBERT WILSON AND MORILLO.

FROM THE BRITISH TRAVELLER.

*To the count de Carthagena.*

I have the honor to inform your excellency that I have this day arrived from Corunna, wounded in the battle of the 15th before that place.

Animated with the same sentiments manifested to you on another occasion, and extremely anxious to stop and terminate the miseries of the present unfortunate and cruel war, in which the nearest relatives are fighting with the utmost rancour, I solicit an opportunity of personally communicating with your excellency, in order to lay before you a proposition which, I flatter myself, will bring about an object so desirable, and lead to a general pacification.

Major Bristow, an officer in my own confidence, yesterday arrived from Cadiz, accompanied by a Spanish officer, who, in the character of an interpreter, will to-morrow present himself in Redondela, at 10, conveyed there in an English boat, in order to commence the negociations, and agree on an interview with your excellency, in such manner as may be most convenient, according to present circumstances and my situation.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Signed, R. WILSON.

Bay of Vigo, July 25, 1823.

*To general sir R. Wilson.*

PONTEVEDRA, July 26, 1823.

Sir—At the moment I received your letter of yesterday, I was on my march with a view to un-

dertake fresh operations, and I imagined major Bristow would follow me to this point; but, as he has not done it, and not being able to refuse hearing proposals which gave for their object one of my most ardent wishes, the cessation of civil war, I hasten to manifest to your excellency that you can point out the spot in which you wish us to meet, either here or at Puente Sampayo. Have the goodness to give me timely notice, in order that I may attend at the place in which our interview is to take place, as, possibly, through some movement, it may be necessary to make, I may not be here when your answer comes. I am, &c.

Signed, Count de CARTHAGENA.

General—I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and I beg you to receive my warmest thanks for the goodness you have shewn to my request. I never doubted your excellency's wishes to see the evils of a civil war ended, and I have learned, with the greatest grief, that the blood of compatriots has already flowed, which ought not to have been the case. Major Bristow has been obliged to return here as he was not able to make the steam vessel wait. I regret being unable to prevent your excellency from having the inconvenience to come to Puenti de Sampayo, as the trip to Puentevedra is very dubious, on account of the uncertainty of the winds, which would prevent me from arriving there at the time appointed; but if your excellency, on account of your occupations, cannot come to Sampayo, I will see if I cannot mount a mule, and go and see you in Pontevedra; and for this purpose I request you to send me the necessary conveyances for myself, major Bristow, a Spanish officer, and my servant. To-morrow the tide will be favorable at 9, so that the next day, at 10, I may be able to be at Puente. An officer is sent from this place with a despatch for general Palarea, and you will please to see it forwarded to him, if you conceive it ought to be sent, or, at least, that its object be attained. I have the honor, &c. Signed, R. WILSON.

Vigo, July 27, 1823.

*To general sir R. Wilson.*

I received your letter, delivered to me by captain Arnares; at the same time, brigadier general Romay has proposed to me, in order to prevent the spilling of Spanish blood, to consent to a suspension of hostilities, which shall not extend to the French, nor to those called the *factious*, as if the latter were not Spaniards. He tells me this is the object of the interview you wish to have with me, and I cannot now refrain from manifesting to you that it is impossible for me to consent to any such armistice. In a despatch, of the day before yesterday, I told brigadier general Romay my last determination. No one wishes more anxiously than myself, a cessation of that civil war which devours us; but there is no way to terminate it, but by compelling, by force, those to throw down their arms, who neither listen to reason nor consult the will of the people. Their whims, passions, and the interest of the association to which they belong, are the only guides of their actions, and, consequently, they are incorrigible. I now repeat what I told you on a former occasion; possibly some party or other has an interest in the distresses of my country being prolonged, without any object or end; possibly this party acts in good faith; but I will never consent that this country shall be scourged in the way of an essay. The will of the nation is well known and it is my duty to conform myself to it. These are my principles; but if, after this declaration, you think our conference can be useful, there is no objection on my part.

(Signed) Count De CARTHAGENA.

Pontevedra, July 27, 1823.

*To general count de Carthagena.*

Vigo, July, 28.

It has been a subject of great regret to me that a misunderstanding, as to my intentions, has, in some measure, delayed the honor of the conference your excellency granted me. My object is different from the one you have imagined from the letter of general Romay to general Palarea; under which impression, in order to treat of matters of the greatest utility to the nation, I will leave this place this afternoon, if the weather allows; or, if not, to-morrow morning, I will embark for Puente de Sampayo, where I hope to find every thing necessary to convey me to Pontevedra, where I hope to arrive in the course of the day.

P. S. My sentiments, with regard to the persons called factious, under existing circumstances, have been evinced by my having proposed and obtained the amnesty granted in Corunna to all of this class, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT WILSON.

*To general sir R. Wilson.*

I give orders to the advanced posts to allow your excellency a free passage whenever you may arrive, whether in the direction of the Puente or by the road of Pontevedra.

(Signed) Count de CARTHAGENA.

Head-quarters, Pontevedra, July 28, 1823.

*To general count de Carthagena.*

The step you have just taken is the most clear proof of your attention towards me, and suited to the delicacy of your character. My intention was to have proposed to you a plan, by means of which a general suspension of arms would have been obtained, and, in a short time, a general peace, through the medium of England. Not being able to say more in writing, it is desirable to have a conference, and endeavor therein to conciliate the general interests of the nation. If the French general wishes to take part in our interview, I am ready to receive him into it; but in this case it is necessary for your excellency to send me an escort, and fix the time and place for the interview.

I am, &c. (signed) R. WILSON.

*To general sir R. Wilson.*

I have sent my aid de camp to you this afternoon, because I should be very sorry to cause you any uneasiness, although nothing could happen to you in coming here, when I had pledged my word to that effect. I am glad you have given to my intentions their true meaning, although you must be aware that I have no power to concert a suspension of hostilities. Nevertheless, your wishes are so great to put an end to the present disastrous war, that I shall have the greatest satisfaction in your proposing to me, in writing, whatever you please, till a more favorable opportunity presents itself for a meeting.

I am, &c. (Signed)

Count de CARTHAGENA.

Pontevedra, July 29, 1813.

*To general count de Carthagena.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter. Measures of reconciliation must always lead to a good result, when the parties meet with friendly intentions and mutually endeavor to remove difficulties, by means of investigations and explanations.

A proposal, that has for its object, the termination

of so much calamity, is of too great magnitude to be risked to the misconceptions which might arise out of the inaccuracy of written words, more especially when the communication is made through the medium of translations.

As, however, so many difficulties are opposed to a personal conference, I will not incur the responsibility of not making a communication that may open a road to the object desired.

I came to Spain as a partizan of no party, the friend of all Spaniards, and only the enemy of the policy of the French government, which disregards the rights of an independent nation.

Since I arrived in Spain, I have invariably acted on the same principles, and I refer not only to my actions, but also to the language I have always used to parties, and with persons who might be considered as their representatives—a truth you, yourself, are not ignorant of.

Following this path, I have acted conformably to the wishes of my friends in England, and the general sentiments of my countrymen.

It is not necessary to refer to the transactions of the war, or point out what hopes, expectations and opinions, have been realized or frustrated, in order to justify my proceedings; it will suffice to inform your excellency that I conceive the moment is arrived when an exertion ought to be made to terminate the war, and my firm opinion is that of a favorite result. Ambition or intolerance alone can prolong its duration.

All those who, in this province, have power and influence, with whom I have conversed, wish an honorable peace, and I am sufficiently authorized to give this assurance. I can also say, that, according to the last news from Cadiz, the government has the same wishes, as for this purpose they have already placed themselves in communication with the British minister.

Among the parties who cordially wish the welfare of their country, (and the rest do not deserve notice, as they have no power), the initiation in a negociation is the only formidable difficulty that presents itself, and its details would meet with no opposition that cannot be removed by discussion or friendly intercourse.

Under these circumstances, I believe that the inclosed proposal will meet with the concurrence of all parties, and I have the satisfaction to say, it has met with the approbation of all those persons of this country, to whom I have shown it, among whom are some to whose opinion your excellency would attach value, in consequence of your friendship and their recent arrival from the seat of government.

In order, therefore, to terminate, as soon as possible, a conflict in which success is a misfortune and victory can confer no glory, I should propose that, until an answer can be obtained from England, from the French government, and the Spanish government in Cadiz, that all hostility should cease in the provinces under the authority of your excellency, and under the regulations the best suited to guard against any misunderstanding among the opposite parties; in the mean while, if your excellency wishes it, I will be the bearer of the proposals to Cadiz.

Whatever may be the result of this proposal, I shall have the satisfaction in having complied with my duty in proposing it—a duty to Spain and to humanity, and I do not dread any responsibility that may attach to my conduct. I am, &c.

(Signed) R. WILSON.

Vigo, July 30, 1823.

PROPOSAL ALLUDED TO.

To obtain peace, preserving national honor and the representative system, which is the basis of constitutional governments, must be the wish of every lover of his country and of its liberties.

When affairs of state are objects of discussion, we ought to examine things as they really are, and not as we wish to find them.

No one can be insensible of the injustice of the present war; but, as it has already commenced, we ought to direct the whole of our attention to the preservation of national honor unimpaired, and, at the same time, acquire all possible advantages.

The great obstacle to the pacification of Spain, consists in the presence of an invader, who demands that same pacification, with arms in his hands, in favor of a party that depends on its success.

England offers her mediation, but without demanding the departure of the invaders.

Are there any means to establish equality among the belligerent parties, without demanding the evacuation of the Spanish territory?

The occupation, *pro forma*, of a Spanish fortified place like that of Corunna or Vigo, by the British government, as the mediator, on behalf of constitutional Spain, might serve to counterbalance sufficiently the parties, and facilitate conciliation, by saving the honor of the constitutionalists, and affording to all sufficient guarantees.

It is impossible to treat with honor, but when the two opposite parties are equally sustained, more particularly when the object is to conciliate the dissentions which divide a country, common to all, into pieces.

(Signed) R. WILSON.

Vigo, July 30, 1823.

ANOTHER.

The evacuation of the Spanish territory possibly would be opposed by the regency of Madrid, in consequence of their considering that their security might be implicated without the force that now sustains them.

Without the guarantee, I suppose, the government of Cadiz would not inspire sufficient confidence in the nation to induce them to enter into a negociation that may end in a treaty of peace.

A negociation, without such a security, would have the appearance of yielding to force, and the consequences, in this case, would be fatal to the authority of the government; anarchy, most probably, would follow, and its consequences, under existing circumstances, might lead the nation to the most deplorable disaster.

(Signed) R. WILSON.

Vigo, July 30, 1823.

*To general Wilson.*

I have received the letter and accompanying documents you sent me by a flag of truce. I now repeat what I have always said, peace and national honor are the objects of my constant wishes. To obtain both one and the other, it might possibly be advisable to enter into negociations, but I am neither authorised for it, nor can you offer any guarantee, that any of the agreements made would be executed, as I have not hitherto learned that you are invested with any public character. The suspension of our operations would have no other effect than to prolong the evils of this country, which is harassed, oppressed and despoiled in the name of liberty; and if there are any negociations pending for the termination of the war, my occupying Vigo

can be no obstacle. This is all I can answer to your attentive letter.

(Signed) Count CARTHAGENA.

Head quarters, Salcedo, August 1, 1823.

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LIBERTY. EQUALITY.

*Republic of Hayti.*

Address of the house of representatives of the people, to the citizens of the republic.

*Citizens*—It is a duty sacred to the representatives of a free people, jealous of the preservation of their rights, to render them an account of the labors which have occupied them. At the close of each session, an account of the conduct of their representatives, and the developement of the motives which have directed them, should be offered to the people: Such is the sentiment which animates the house, and the end which it proposes.

It is highly satisfactory to the national representation, at the same time, to announce to the people, that, while we enjoy the benefits of a peace acquired by an heroic perseverance, the most perfect harmony reigns between the executive power and the first bodies of the state, which rival each other in their zeal and efforts for the public good.

Hayti, worthy of appearing in the rank of states the most celebrated for their patriotism, marches with rapidity in that which is assigned to it, and, hastening the progress of her civilization, she shines with the pure splendor which is derived from the wisdom of her institutions.

The want of a code, adopted to our local situation, has been felt, and the constant cares of the worthy chief of our state have induced us to take into consideration many projects of laws, among which were a part of those which are to form this precious monument.

The foreign laws which were applicable among us, only by analogy, have ceased to be suitable, in proportion as the nation has advanced to its maturity.

The first legislature opened the project: it was occupied in directing the arrangements, but the term for which it was elected having expired, it has only been able to leave us the first book of the code.

In the same way we have been occupied, in connection with its labors, with the new subject submitted to our debates; and feeling penetrated with the immortal truth, that good laws are the greatest benefits that men can have or receive, we have passed the *law upon the destination of property;* this first link, which connects the chain of the two books, quiets the unsettled opinions upon affairs, which fictitious reports appeared to have perplexed. A law upon property, in defining the civil right with regard to this source of the re-union of men in the social state, gives action to the constitutional principle which renders it inviolable.

*Usufruct and habitation*, which are the representations only of the property, distinguishing themselves from it by their essential character, have been the subjects of a particular disposition by this principle; *servitudes and ground services* have received their just appreciation. From that it may be derived, that the different modes of acquiring property will no longer be a judiciary problem; the nature and form of *donations, made during life* and *by will*, terminate the series of the laws of this session, as to the Haytian code.

But the care of the chief of the state, and the sollicitude of you delegates, have not been confined to that: their thoughts have embraced all your interests. The situation of the functionaries, civil and military, who have resigned, or are in retirement, and that of the officers not in service; the pay of the military authorities and troops of the line of every kind, in actual service, have been the objects of two laws: the first determines the pretentions of the former, and the second is, to the others, a new evidence that the supporters of our institutions, the depositaries of our national glory, will always fix the attention of your legislators. In this new occurrence, the executive power has given an example of admirable disinterestedness.

We have commenced the examination of the accounts rendered by the secretary of state; but time has not permited us to complete this work. The re-union of the several parts of the territory having considerably augmented the detail, it has not escaped the high conceptions of the president of Hayti, to address the project of a law for the creation of a chamber of accounts; this useful institution promises great financial results, and will diminish the labors of the office of secretary of state.

The prosperous situation of the finances requiring no new taxes, we have thought that, in order to encourage the culture of cotton, of that branch of the products of the territory which was declining, it was necessary to diminish the impost to which it was subjected, and to give this mark of protection to the honorable agriculturalist; but also, to restrain cupidity, the law has established the means of preventing, in not having ceased to strike at it; for your delegates have reflected that the end of the precepts of a wise political economy, is to prevent offences, in not having them to punish. The law upon patents has been prolonged, (prorogee), for the year 1824.

The necessity of an uniform system in the sale of produce, as well as in the accounts, has not escaped the attention of those in whom you have reposed your confidence. The law for the compensation of surveyors has determined the price of surveying lands.

Such is the faithful representation of the labors to which we have devoted ourselves.

*Haytians!* The trophies which render you illustrious, the glory acquired by the founder of the republic, the splendor which the brilliant actions of his successors give him, the ardent patriotism of your chiefs, the zeal and the labors of the legislative powers, all would be inefficacious, if you should not feel penetrated with the sacred duties which the citizen owes to himself and to society. Be faithful observers of the laws, and respect those who are the organs of them; profit by the sweets of peace, to give yourselves up with constancy to the cultivation of this favored land, in which nature has inclosed all our riches. Reflect, that it is from her bosom that we can draw all the resources necessary to our existence. Then you will fly to arms with more success, if any ever dare to threaten our liberties.

*Haytians!* In casting our eyes around us, we cannot see, without enthusiasm, the imposing attitude of our noble country; but, if we extend our looks farther, we shall feel convinced of the necessity of all having but one and the same thought for the preservation of our great work. Be always united; you will command admiration and respect; continue always united, and you will nobly second the efforts which the government ceases not to make for the security of our independence.

Long live the republic!

Given at Port au Prince, in the house of representatives of the people, the 8th of July, 1823, 20th year of independence.

Signed by sixty-six members, and

The president of the house, (or chamber,)

(Signed) DUVAL, fils.

ARNOUX, jeune,

DERENONCOURT,

*the secretaries.*

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## The Slave Trade.

FROM THE BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER.

Before the close of the late session of the British parliament, the correspondence with foreign governments, within the preceding year, was laid before the two houses, by order of the king. The principle objects of the correspondence were stated to be to remove the abuses practised against the existing laws, and to procure the enforcement of the existing treaties on the subject. The correspondence with the United States' government we copy below. Sweden has evinced great anxiety to put an end to the trade. It was already prohibited by the laws of Sweden, and king Charles John has, the present year, issued an ordinance, declaring that all vessels prosecuting the slave trade under the Swedish flag, thereby forfeit the protection of that flag. Denmark has acted with good faith in her prohibition of the trade, and satisfactorily explained some charges of negligence on the part of her colonial functionaries at St. Thomas. The Netherlands have heartily co-operated with England in all measures for the suppression of the trade, and have remedied many abuses. Three new articles, in addition to the treaty of May, 1818, have been agreed to, providing for the supply of vacancies in the mixed commission, and that proof ,that any slaves have been on board a vessel, captured at any time of her voyage, or that the vessel is fitted out with certain accommodations for slaves, shall be considered sufficient cause of condemnation. Under the Spanish and Portuguese flag, the trade is still carried on to a great extent. In the year 1822, 31,240 slaves were embarked for Rio Janeiro, of which 3,484 died on the passage, and 8,112 for Bahia, of which 256 died. Spain and Portugal, however, have signed additional articles, which will enable the British cruisers to act with greater confidence in the capture of illegal traders. The correspondence with France is quite unsatisfactory. All that has been obtained from the government of that country is limited to general assurances that the trade shall be abolished, and, in the mean time, infractions of the treaties and laws remain unpunished. We here subjoin the correspondence between the British government and our own.

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*The right hon. Stratford Canning to Mr. Secretary Canning. (Received April 20.)*

[EXTRACT].

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1823.

A resolution, introduced by Mr. Mercer, one of the members from Virginia, was taken into consideration on one of the latest days of the session, and was carried by the very large majority of one hundred and thirty-one voices against nine. Mr. Mercer's resolution makes no mention of the right of search, but points to a declaration of piracy against the slave trade, to be effected, in the first instance, by negociations among such powers as are disposed to fix that character upon the traffic in slaves, and ultimately, by a general recognition of it, as forming a constituent part of the common law of nations. The resolution is thus expressed:—

"That the president of the United States be requested to enter upon and to prosecute, from time to time, such negociations with the maritime powers of Europe and America, as he may deem expedient for the abolition of the African slave trade; and its ultimate denunciation as piracy, under the law of nations, by the civilized world."

STRATFORD CANNING.

The right hon. GEO. CANNING, &c.

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*The right hon. Stratford Canning to Mr. Secretary Canning. (Received May 9.)*

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1823.

SIR: I hasten to transmit to you the inclosed copy of an answer, which I have received from the American secretary of state, to my official letter of Jan. 29, on the necessity of concerting more effectual measures for the suppression of the slave trade. It will doubtless afford you satisfaction to find that the government of the United States, though they persist in declining to concede the right of search, proposed on the part of his majesty, declare their willingness to join with other nations in treating the slave trade as piracy; and offer, with that principle in view, as a substitute for the right of search, to enter into a mutual engagement with Great Britain. This proposal, you will observe, is grounded on a late resolution of the house of representatives, which I have already had the honor of making known to you. I hope to have some further communication on the subject with Mr. Adams, before the departure of the monthly packet. In the mean time, it only remains for me to mention that Mr. Gallatin has lately made a separate representation to the French ministry, with reference to the slave trade, agreeably to what it appears, that he had led his majesty's ambassador at Paris to expect.

I have, &c. STRATFORD CANNING.

The right hon. GEORGE CANNING, &c.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

*Washington, March* 30, 1823.

*The secretary of state to Mr. Canning.*

SIR: Your letter, of the 29th January, was, immediately after being received, submitted to the consideration of the president of the United States. The delay which has hitherto procrastinated a reply to it has been occasioned, not by any abatement of the interest, on the part of the government of the United States, with which it regards every effort and proposal for the full and final suppression of the African slave trade; nor by any hesitation with regard to the decision, which had already been formed and declared, respecting the proposal of submitting the vessels and citizens of the United States to the search of foreign officers upon the high seas; but by an expectation that measures contemplated by the national house of representatives, might, before the close of the session of congress, indicate to the executive government of this country, views, upon which it would be enabled to substitute a proposal, for accomplishing the total abolition of the traffic, more effectual to its purpose and less liable to objections, on other accounts, than that to which the United States cannot be reconciled, of granting the right of search. These measures were matured in the branch of the legislature were they originated only at the very termination of the session, and the senate had not the opportunity of pronouncing its opinion upon them. There is, however, no doubt on the mind of the president that they would have obtained their sanction; and

he has, therefore, no hesitation in acting so far upon the expressed and almost unanimous sense of the house, as to declare the willingness of this union to join with other nations, in the common engagements to pursue and to punish those who shall continue to practice this crime, so reprobated by the just and humane of every country, as enemies of the human race, and to fix them irrevocably in the class, and under the denomination, of pirates.

I have the honor of enclosing herewith a copy of the fourth and fifth sections of a law of the United States, passed on the 15th May, 1820, by which it will be seen that any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company of any ship or vessel owned, in the whole or in part, or navigated for or in behalf of any citizen or citizens of the United States, participating in the slave trade, is declared to have incurred the penalties of piracy, and made liable to atone for the crime with his life. The legislation of a single nation can go no farther to mark its abhorrence of this traffic, or to deter the people, subject to its laws, from contamination by the practice of others.

If the inference in your letter of the 29th of Jan. from the documents to which it refers, be correct, that the French flag is more particularly employed to cover the illicit trade on the coast of Africa, and the conjecture, likewise suggested in it, that this flag is used to cover the property and the persons of individuals bound to other allegiances, be well founded, this statute makes every citizen of the United States, concerned in such covered traffic, liable, if detected in it, to suffer an ignominious death. The code of Great Britain herself has hitherto no provision of equal severity in the pursuit of her subjects, even under the shelter of foreign banners and to the covert of simulated papers and property.

I am directed by the president of the United States to propose, on their part, the adoption, by Great Britain, of the principle of this act; and to offer a mutual stipulation to annex the penalties of piracy to the offence of participating in the slave trade, by the citizens or subjects of the respective parties. This proposal is made as a substitute for that of conceding a mutual right of search, and of a trial by mixed commissions, which would be rendered useles by it. Should it meet the approbation of your government, it may be separately urged upon the adoption of France, and upon the other maritime powers of Europe, in the manner most conducive to its ultimate success.

I have the honor of tendering to you the renewed assurance of my distinguished consideration.

JOHN Q. ADAMS.

The right hon. Stratford Canning, &c.

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*Extract of an act of congress, approved the 15th May, 1820, "to continue in force 'an act to protect the commerce of the United States, and to punish the crime of piracy'—and also to make further provision for punishing the crime of piracy."*

Sec. IV. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company, or any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company of any ship or vessel, owned in whole or in part, or navigated for or in behalf of any citizen or citizens of the United States, shall land from any such ship or vessel, and on any foreign shore, seize any negro or mulatto, not held to service or labor by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave; or shall decoy, or forcibly bring and carry, or shall receive such negro or mulatto on board of any such ship or vessel, with intent as aforesaid; such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate, and, on conviction thereof, before the circuit court of the United States, for the district wherein he may be brought or found, shall suffer death.

Sec. V. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company of any ship or vessel, owned wholly or in part, or navigated for or in behalf of any citizen or citizens of the United States, shall forcibly confine or detain, or aid and abet in forcibly confining or detaining on board such ship or vessel, any negro or mulatto, not held to service by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall, on board any such ship or vessel, offer or attempt to sell, as a slave, any negro or mulatto, not held to service as aforesaid, or shall, on the high seas, or any where on tide water, transfer or deliver over to any other ship or vessel, any negro or mulatto, not held to service as aforesaid, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall land or deliver on shore, from on board any such ship or vessel, any such negro or mulatto, with intent to make sale of, or having previously sold such negro or mulatto as a slave; such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate, and, on conviction thereof before the circuit court of the United States, for the district wherein he shall be brought or found, shall suffer death.

## Imperfection of Language.

### A CASE FOR CASUISTS.

FROM THE RICHMOND COMPILER.

A controversy has arisen in Charleston, (between two gentlemen of high character), which turns upon the construction of an instrument of writing. The point has been debated with much warmth and some personality between them; but we take no other interest in the dispute than the legal question which it involves. All the relevant facts, to explain the case, are as follows: (We state the names algebraically, because the question is as clear in that shape as in any other).

A bought a piece of land of B—The agreement was drawn by A—and runs, with the exception of names and dates, as follows:

ARTICLES of agreement entered into this——— day of———, between B, of———, of the one part, and A, of the other part:

The said B hereby promises and agrees that, upon the titles he has this day executed to the said A. being completed by the renunciation of dower of his, the said B's wife, and the same being found, on examination, to be good and sufficient, and free from all incumbrances, or remove the same should there appear to be any, so as to give a good and perfect title, to all that piece or parcel of land, known by the name of———————, and, on delivering the said piece, part or parcel of land, to the said A, or his agent, peaceable possession of the same, whenever the said B shall give reasonable notice, that he is ready to proceed to deliver possession thereof, he, the said A, promises and agrees to and with, the said B, to pay, as a full compensation for the said island, the sum of two thousand dollars in cash, and five hundred dollars more, payable half

yearly, without interest, in equal proportions, towards the education of B's son, should the same become necessary by his not obtaining a warrant as a cadet at West Point, within six months from this date.

Charleston, ————————.

Signed B.
A.

C, a former friend of A, seeing the instrument of writing, took it into his head that it was a dishonorable transaction; inasmuch, as he considered that A thereby pledged himself to use his influence with the government, to obtain for B's son a birth in West Point—or, in lieu thereof, to pay B, after six months, the sum of $500. He considers it, therefore, as a communication or sale of A's political influence—for the said sum of $500.

C attempts to eke out his construction by a letter of A to B, written within forty days after the agreement—in which A uses this language:

"I have the satisfation to enclose you a warrant of appointment in favor of your son as a cadet at West Point. From the number of previous applicants, I was fearful the appointment could not be made at this time, but the interest which was made has proved successful. It must not only be gratifying to you, but myself; and flatter myself that your son's exertions will be such as to meet with the approbation of his superior officers. All his future fortune will now, in a great measure, depend on himself, and should he improve the opportunities which the appointment offers to him, he may be an ornament to his country and a blessing to his family. I shall always feel deeply interested in hearing of his advancement and honorable conduct, &c. I cannot but congratulate you and your son on the honorable and distinguished appointment he receives, and hope he will duly value it. Many gentlemen's sons in this place have been endeavoring, for a year past, to obtain such, and have been disappointed. Destroy this letter as it is written in great haste, and a friendly one."

C infers from this letter the direct and immediate agency of A in procuring the warrant. "The *condition*, (says he), to procure a warrant, forms a part of the agreement itself—A receives and forwards the warrant—thereby completing the condition and exonerating himself from the payment of $500, which otherwise he would have been compelled to make. C also states, as a part of his evidence, that A did write on to a member of congress, to procure a warrant for B's son—and that this member did apply to the war department for it.

We pass over the moral and political reflections in which C indulges upon the occasion—as the only business with the question is, as a *legal point*, open for the construction of lawers and lexicographers. Is A or C right in his construction?

A, in reply, contends, that the instrument was never intended to bear the meaning which C attributes to it. He says that the warrant was no part of the consideration in the purchase of Key West—that the articles do not show any bargain of a cadet warrant. He says, that he was under no obligation to procure a warrant for B's son—he "agreed to pay $2000 *cash*, as a full compensation for the land, a sum, by the bye, greater than he had offered it for to a gentleman of this city;" that "on some representation, he agreed to give B $500, payable half yearly, without interest, towards the education of his son, should the same become necessary"—that he thought the young gentleman worthy of the appointment he solicited—that B, in one of his letters, asked him, if he had heard any thing of his *son's application for a warrant?* And that B had previously told him the application would be supported by his friends in New York. He then brings forward the following statements from D and E:

"B frequently came to my house, whilst he was in treaty with A for the sale of——. In the course of conversation B stated that he asked A $2,500, but that he had finally agreed to take $2000, *as a full compensation for the purchase of the island.*

B also stated, that *his son had made application for a warrant at West Point*, and that A had kindly volunteered his friendship in favor of his application. B had frequent conversations with me on the subject; and, in all of them, I distinctly understood from him that this had been done from a generous and friendly disposition towards his son and *had nothing to do with the purchase.* B, *at that time*, appeared much gratified at the liberal and disinterested conduct of A, and expressed himself much pleased with his generosity." D.

"Before me, personally appeared E, who, being duly sworn, saith—That, when B was in treaty with A for the sale of——, B had frequent conversations with this deponent on the subject. B stated that he had asked A $2,500, and that he declined the purchase at that price: But that he, B, had ultimately closed the contract, he having agreed to take $2000, as a *full compensation for the said island.* He also stated that *his son had made application for a warrant at West Point*, and that A had offered his friendly aid in favor of his application. B, in all his conversations with this deponent respecting the sale and amount to be received, *declared that* $2000 *was the full amount of the purchase money.*

This deponent further states, that B expressed himself much pleased with the liberal and generous conduct of A towards his son, and clearly and distinctly understood from B, that this friendly disposition was voluntary and gratuitous. B, *at that time*, was greatly gratified with A's disinterested conduct, and particularly his voluntarily and gratuitously extending towards his son his friendly interest and kind feelings." E.

*Query.* What does the *agreement* mean? Is A or C correct in his construction? It is a new case in *law*—as we trust it is in *politics.*

## CHRONICLE.

The secretary of war and his lady visited Baltimore on Tuesday last, to be present at the nuptials of one of their friends in this city. The 5th regiment of volunteers paraded and saluted him. He will leave here this morning.

*John Cheverus*, bishop of the Roman catholic church at Boston, has taken leave of his flock to return to France, on the command of his superiors. He has parted from his religious brethren in the tenderest and most affectionate manner.

*Gold.* The mine in North Carolina still yields its treasure. A piece lately found weighed 50 pennyweights.

*Natchez.* At our latest dates, the fever raged with undiminished violence, as to the few persons who remained in the city. All sort of business, except as relating to the disease, was suspended. The disorder is said to have "assumed the violence of the plague." *The environs are healthy.*

*Alabama.* The town of Tuscumbia, or Big Spring, by a late census, contains 294 white males, and 178 white females, 213 slaves, and 17 free people of color—total 702. On the 1st Jan. 1822, it had only 248 inhabitants.

*New York.* The great canal was opened to Schenectady on the 3d ult. and fifty boats passed through it. The communication will be extended to Albany in a few days, and great preparations are mak- at that city to celebrate the important event. The navigation of the northern canal is in full operation —33 canal boats and four sloops lately passed through the lock between Troy and Lansingburg in one day. It is believed that the canal proposed to pass through the northern part of the state, and unite the waters of lake Ontario with those of lake Champlain, will soon be undertaken. The surveys made are favorable to the project.

The Onondaga Gazette says that there have been cleared from Syracuse, between the 18th of April and the 11th of September, 1,617 barrels of flour; 34,798 do. of provisions; 373 barrels of ashes; 5,329 bushels of wheat; 14,450 galls. of whiskey; and 173,000 bushels of salt.

A treaty was held on the third instant at Moscow, Livingston county, between the chiefs of the Seneca Indians and United States commissioners. By this treaty, the Indian title to about 17,000 acres of valuable land, on the Genesee river, has been extinguished. Messrs John Greig, H. B. Gibson, Jellis Clute, and Micah Brooks, have purchased this tract of government, and intend offering it for sale immediately to settlers.—*Onondaga Register.*

*Auction duties.* During the year, ending on the 30th June last, says a Philadelphia paper, seventy thousand four hundred and ninety dollars and ninety cents have been paid into the state treasury for duties arising from sales at auction in the city of Philadelphia.

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| From Joshua Lippincott | $18,813 50 |
| Samuel Comly | 15,588 75 |
| Richard Willing, jr. | 14,359 02 |
| T. Wagner | 9,904 62 |
| John Jennings | 7,621 52 |
| John Potter | 2,165 79 |
| Thomas Passmore | 748 01 |
| Titon Grelaud | 710 32 |
| George Riter | 271 92 |
| Peter Kuhn | 152 14 |
| T. B. Freeman | 93 84 |
| B. Leland | 61 50 |
| Total | $70,490 90 |

*Water melon*—one weighing *sixty-one* pounds, 2 feet 8 inches long and 3 feet 1 inch in circumference, was cut at an hotel in New York on the 8th ultimo.

*Education in New-Hampshire.* New-Hampshire, with a population of something less than 250,000 souls, according to the late census, pays an annual tax of *ninety thousand dollars* for the support of common free schools.

USEFUL MEMORANDA. We find the following useful establishment of dates running through the newspapers, without knowing to which the "credit" should be given for the compilation. Not having examined it ourselves, we cannot vouch for its correctness.

The several state constitutions were formed and adopted as follows, viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| New-Hampshire | Sept. 5, 1792 |
| Massachusetts | March 2, 1780 |
| and amended | 1820 |
| Rhode Island, (charter) | 1663 |
| Connecticut | Sept. 15, 1818 |
| Vermont | July 4, 1793 |
| New York | April 20, 1777 |
| revised in | 1821 |
| New Jersey | July 2, 1776 |
| Pennsylvania | Sept. 2, 1790 |
| Delaware | June 12, 1792 |
| Maryland | Aug. 14, 1776 |
| Virginia | July 5, 1776 |
| North Carolina | Dec. 18, 1776 |
| South Carolina | June 3, 1790 |
| Georgia | May 30, 1798 |
| Louisiana | Jan. 22, 1812 |
| Kentucky | Aug. 17, 1799 |
| Ohio | Nov. 1, 1802 |
| Tennessee | Feb. 6, 1796 |
| Mississippi | Aug. 15, 1817 |
| Indiana | June 29, 1816 |
| Illinois | Aug. 26, 1818 |
| Alabama | Aug. 2, 1819 |
| Maine | Oct. 29, 1819 |
| Missouri | June 12, 1820 |

Periods at which each of the states became a member of the Union, by adopting the constitution of the United States, or by virtue of an act of congress.

| | |
|---|---|
| Delaware adopted the constitution of the United States | Dec. 7, 1787 |
| Pennsylvania | Dec. 12, 1787 |
| New Jersey | Dec. 18, 1787 |
| Georgia | Jan. 2, 1788 |
| Connecticut | Jan. 9, 1788 |
| Massachusetts | Feb. 6, 1788 |
| Maryland | April 28, 1788 |
| South Carolina | May 23, 1788 |
| New Hapshire | June 21, 1788 |
| Virginia | June 26, 1788 |
| New York | July 26, 1788 |
| North Carolina | Nov. 21, 1889 |
| Rhode Island | May 29, 1790 |
| Vermont admitted by act of congress | March 4, 1791 |
| Kentucky | June 1, 1792 |
| Tennessee | June 1, 1796 |
| Ohio | Feb. 19, 1803 |
| Louisiana | April 8, 1812 |
| Indiana | Dec. 11, 1816 |
| Mississppi | Dec. 10, 1817 |
| Illinois | Dec. 3, 1818 |
| Alabama | Dec. 14, 1819 |
| Maine | March 3, 1820 |
| Missouri | Aug. 10, 1821 |

POSTSCRIPT. *From Thompson's Island.* The U. S. ship Peacock, capt. S. Cassin, has arrived at Norfolk, from Thompson's island, after a boisterous passage of 15 days. The island continued unhealthy, but the sick were generally convalescent. Com. Porter was still improving, but he and *surgeons* Williamson, Babbitt, Van Brunt, Bassett, and *midshipman* Radcliffe, were still on the sick list. The late gallant lieut. *Watson*, and lieut. *Hammersley*, a valuable officer, *David P. Adams*, esq. nominally chaplain, but filling the professorship of various departments of nautical science, acting sailing master *Bainbridge*, with midshipmen *Reed* and *Bainbridge*, and *forty-two* others in subordinate stations, have paid the great debt of nature! The crew of the Peacock are in good health. Commodore Porter may be expected home in eight or ten days. The U. States ship John Adams sailed in company with the Peacock, and arrived at Norfolk just as the steam boat from Baltimore was leaving that place. The Hornet was at Vera Cruz.

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